

Lisa Cataldi

From: Ron <Ronpatel14@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 10:01 AM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: HB 6396

Subject Line: HB 6396 [RONAK PATEL-SHREE MAA OF RI INC

Dear [LEGISLATOR],

My name is [RONAK PATEL

I am writing to you as a resident and small business operator in [CRANSTON/RHODEISLAND]. My business operates [SINGLE STORE] IN CRANSTON] and employs [5] RI residents. I am disappointed to hear that the Rhode Island State Legislature is considering a ban on menthol cigarettes, flavored dip, and flavored cigars across the state. I urge you to oppose this measure.

We agree we need to address underage vaping, but banning all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes, makes no sense.

Rhode Island's small business owners have struggled to keep their doors open during this prolonged economic slowdown. Not only have gas and in-store sales been impacted, but I've also had to invest in additional safety measures resulting in unforeseen costs negatively impacting my bottom line.

This broad ban on flavored tobacco products would jeopardize a significant portion of my revenue and quite frankly, could force my business to close its doors. A ban on these products would put hundreds of Rhode Island jobs at risk.

I urge you to vote against HB 6396. Please do not move forward with such a broad overreaching ban.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
[RONAK PATEL]

Sent from my iPhone